

Message Text

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64

ACTION OC-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 EUR-12 CCO-00 MMO-01 /035 W

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R 290914Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1487

AMEMBASSY ROME

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY RABAT

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ACCRA AND BONN FOR RCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ACOM TS IT

SUBJECT: TRANSFER OF REGIONAL COMMUNICATIONS ELECTRONICS
OFFICER (CEO) POSITION FROM TUNIS TO ROME

REF: STATE 012391

1. SORRY TO BE SO LONG IN RESPONDING TO REFTEL, BUT
CEO SIMS TDY IN MOROCCO AND WE WANTED HIS INPUT BEFORE
REPLYING.

2. WE FEEL THAT DECISION TO TRANSFER THE AREA RESPON-
SIBILITY OF THE RCO FROM ACCRA TO BONN MAKES GOOD
SENSE. HOWEVER, WE QUESTION THE DECISION TO MOVE
THE CEO POSITION FROM TUNIS TO ROME.

3. MUCH HARD WORK, NOT TO MENTION MONEY, WAS EX-
PENDED BY EMBASSY TUNIS IN SETTING UP AN EXCELLENT
SHOP FOR THE CEO POSITION: NEW TILE FLOORING, SHEL-
VING, PAINT, LIGHTING, WORK BENCH, AIR CONDITINING-
ALL REQUIREMENTS WERE AND ARE BEING MET. HOUSING
IN TUNIS FOR CEO IS EXCELLENT. LOCATION ONLY 10

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MINUTES TO AIRPORT FROM EMBASSY AND 15 MINUTES FROM

RESIDENCE. CEO HAS AT HIS DISPOSAL VEHICLE AND DRIVER FOR OFFICIAL BUSINESS DAY AND NIGHT. FLIGHTS ALMOST DAILY TO ANYWHERE IN NORTH AFRICA WITH NO WILDCAT STRIKES. CEO IS MET AT AIRPORT, ASSISTED THROUGH CUSTOMS, AND IS AT EMBASSY WITHIN 25 MINUTES AFTER ARRIVAL.

4. FROM EMBASSY VANTAGE POINT IT SEEMS THE CEO'S EFFECTIVENESS TO SERVICE HIS PRESENT AREA WOULD BE REDUCED BY MOVE TO ROME. WE PRESUME THAT HIS RESPONSIBILITIES WOULD BE INCREASED TO INCLUDE MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT AT EMBASSY ROME AS WELL AS EQUIPMENT AT THE SIX CONSULATES IN ITALY. IF ACCURATE, THIS WOULD DOUBLE HIS PRESENT RESPONSIBILITIES.

5. CEO SIMS THINKS SOME SURVEY SHOULD BE MADE PRIOR TO MOVING POSITION. WITH THE AMOUNT OF EQUIPMENT AND WORKLOAD TUNIS AND MOROCCO, CEO STRONGLY RECOMMENDS POSITION REMAIN IN PLACE.
SEELYE

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